

**REMARKS**

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application which puts the claims more in conformance with idiomatic English and standard U.S. practice. By this amendment, claims 1-3, 6, 8, 9, 12-14, 16, 19-21, 23, 25, 26, 28-31, 33-36, 40, 43, 45-47, 49 and 52 have been amended and claims 53-59 have been added. Furthermore, the specification has been amended to include subject matter which was present in the originally filed claims.

The amendments to the claims made in this amendment have not been made to overcome the prior art, and thus, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Raimund SCHALLER



Neil F. Greenblum  
Reg. No. 28,394

December 2, 2004  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191